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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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<b>COUNTRY</b>	Poland	<b>REPORT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Polish Coal Industry	<b>DATE DISTR.</b>	13 October 1954
<b>DATE OF INFO.</b>		<b>NO. OF PAGES</b>	2
<b>PLACE ACQUIRED</b>		<b>REQUIREMENT NO.</b>	RD
		<b>REFERENCES</b>	

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Polish coal production during 1953, excluding brown coal, amounted to 88,000,000 tons; 65,000,000 tons of this was steam coal about half of which was first-grade. It is estimated that the 1954/55 coal production will amount to between 90,000,000 and 95,000,000 tons, excluding brown coal. The plan of 100,000,000 tons is generally considered to be too high in view of the inadequate equipment in use in most mines. 25X1
2. The over-all picture of mechanization is not good as would appear from Polish publications. Three or four mines, such as Prezydent, near Katowice, are very highly mechanized, but in most mines, the equipment in use is the same as before the war. The coal-sorting equipment in the majority of mines is out of date and worn out. This is causing the Poles some embarrassment since Western customers are complaining of the mixed quality of coal being delivered.<sup>1</sup>
3. There is a shortage of gassing coal in Poland. Practically none is exported, yet the mining industry is having great difficulty in supplying the gas works. For this reason, gas is rationed to domestic consumers in some areas. 25X1
4. The following new mines have been opened in Poland: Wesola Number 2 and Ziemowit.<sup>2</sup> A new coking plant is to be opened shortly at Zdzeszowice.
5. Polish coal reserves are not maintained at any set figure. If export demands are high, reserves are correspondingly low and sometimes amount to little more than is in transit. When export demands fall off, current production, apart from domestic consumption, is put into reserve.<sup>3</sup>

Comments:

33% of the machines put into service in the coal mines in early 1953 are not in working order now, and that the excessive utilization of

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equipment as well as the poor quality of Soviet-made machinery lowers the extent of mechanisation of work.

2. Reported  to be producing second-grade domestic coal.
3. Confirms information received

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